



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

NEWS...

Issue #2, November 1997

The Solution -- What Will it Look Like?

After nearly three years of intense technical work and hundreds of public meetings and workshops throughout California, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is nearing completion of a draft "Bay-Delta solution." What does that mean? It means the real work is just beginning.

"All the work so far has been to put together a feasible, affordable and implementable set of actions to address the environmental and water management problems associated with the Bay-Delta system," says Lester Snow, executive director of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. "Over the coming months, we'll be asking Californians to consider some very important trade-offs regarding the way we manage one of our most important natural resources."

Several considerations or "trade-offs" are emerging as CALFED continues to refine and test the various solutions still on the table. Alternatives -- sets of actions that address the four problem areas of the Bay-Delta system -- differ most in the areas of cost, flexibility and the extent to which stakeholder groups can be assured the solution will perform as intended.

Details, Details

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is addressing what is historically one of the most complicated

ecosystem and water management challenges in the world. The scope of solution areas itself is unprecedented. CALFED's current work is being

done at the "programmatic" level. A Programmatic Environmental Impact *continued from front*

Report/Environmental Impact Statement, to be completed January 1998, will present a "big picture"

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The scope of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, if laid over the east coast, would cover eight states.

approach to resource management in the Bay-Delta system. Actions and potential actions will be described in a general way and evaluated in terms of broad-based

What's News

- ✓ Getting to a Solution
- ✓ What Level of Detail?
- ✓ Timeline

benefits and impacts.

In Phase III of the Program, which will begin in late 1998 and continue for 20 to 30 years, site-specific analysis and detailed environmental impact evaluations will be conducted on each action before it is implemented.

12/9*	Public Meeting, Chico
12/12*	Bay-Delta Advisory Council -- Federally chartered stakeholder group meets to review progress in narrowing alternatives and give input.
12/17, 12/18	CALFED Policy Group meets to review recommendations for a draft solution.
TBD*	Bay-Delta Advisory Group meets to review recommended draft solution and provide stakeholder input.
January 1998	The Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement is released for public review and comment.

*** Indicates Public Meeting**



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Timeline

Following are upcoming milestones in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program process.

12/3*	Public Meeting, Los Angeles
12/4*	Public Meeting, San Diego

The mission of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is to develop a long-term plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta System.